



Milwaukee Community Justice Council

Working collaboratively to ensure a fair, efficient, and effective justice system
that enhances public safety and quality of life in our community.

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 23, 2014 3:15pm-4:45pm
Milwaukee County Courthouse, Room 609

PRESENT: Jeffrey Kremers, James Santelle, Rob Henken, John Chisholm, Tom Reed, Nate Holton, Michael Hafemann, Richard Schmidt, Niel Thoreson, Joel Plant, Kit Murphy McNally, Colleen Foley, Chris Abele, Carmella Delucia, Willie Johnson.

SCHEDULED ITEMS:

I. Convene and Updates (John Chisholm)

Chair John Chisholm informed the group that his term as chair was coming to a close and that the group would have to elect a new chair. The bylaws specify a finite pool of Executive Committee members who are eligible to be chair. After a discussion of the eligible candidates, Chisholm nominated Chief Judge Jeffrey Kremers for Chair. County Executive Chris Abele seconded the nomination. Kremers expressed his willingness to take on the position. The committee unanimously voted to install Kremers.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes (John Chisholm)

The Committee approved the minutes from the May 21st meeting.

III. Discussion of Coordinator Position (All)

The committee had a discussion of CJC funding, JAG fund allocation, and the Coordinator's contract. After discussion complications associated with having all member agencies contributing to CJC staffing, the group agreed to maintain the current funding structure which relies on federal funding and cost-sharing between the city and county.

The Chief Judge motioned to adopt a new Coordinator contract for 18 months, through the end of the 2015. The Executive Committee approved the Chief Judge's motion. The committee gave the Chief Judge, as Chair, the agency to work out the specifics of the new contract on behalf of the committee.

IV. Recidivism Measures and Response to Comptroller Audit (All)

Nate Holton briefed the committee on the memo that will be sent to the Milwaukee County Comptroller to begin the process of establishing a set of program specific definitions of effectiveness for alternatives to incarceration and jail diversion programming. The memo included a recommended framework for defining several different recidivism measures.

V. Other Business

Tom Reed updated the group on the Sentinel Event conference that occurred in Philadelphia. The group that represented Milwaukee brought a case involving a young man who committed a homicide. The event is being analyzed and the group will be looking at this specific case to better understand what the criminal justice system could have done differently. Tom Reed mentioned that this is something the Council can do routinely with other specific cases.

The Chief Judge noted that the Courts will be hosting a daylong conference on October 17th to discuss race and racial disparities in the criminal justice system. Jeffery Robinson, a notable defense attorney out of Seattle, will be speaking at the event.

The County Executive provided a brief update on the newly formed Mental Health Board and noted that the value of working collaboratively and productively with the criminal justice system was a topic that he discussed with the individuals that he nominated for board membership.

VI. Adjourn